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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT

Civilian and Military Activities
in the Potsdam and Frankfurt/Oder

DATE DISTR.

17 DEC 1958

Bezirke (*Forced Labor / Co-operative
Farms / Border Guards / Escape
Routes*)

NO. PAGES

1

REFERENCES

RD

DATE OF
INFO.

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PLACE &
DATE ACQ.

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

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information on the following: (1) A shop in Berlin/Mitte which sells the personal goods of those persons who have fled to the West, (2) Prisoners working in the area of Alt Biesdorf, (3) Kampfgruppen firing practices, security measures and investigations in the Seelow area, and (4) Members of the Agricultural Production Cooperative (LPG) in the Frankfurt/Oder area.

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STATE	ARMY	#X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI	AEC
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)								

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[redacted] Berlin-Mitte - There is a shop ~~xx~~ at the corner of Weinmeister str. and Schoenhauser str. which sells personal goods of those German citizens who have fled to the West. The goods consist of furniture, household utensils and clothes. Soviet military personnel are often found to be among the buyers. The entire income from these sales is turned over to the Government.

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[redacted] Alt-Biesdorf - [redacted] approximately 60-prisoners working in a potato field near this region. They were dressed in striped jackets and trousers and were under VoPo guard. Three trucks covered with canvas were seen on the road. [redacted] the prisoners were from [redacted] from the prison in Kligenberg.

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[redacted] Seelow - The local Kampfgruppe, composed mostly of elderly men, conduct firing practice with rifles and revolvers near here every Saturday. Alarms occur on the Polish border near Seelow about twice a week. These are caused by Poles attempting to escape to the West. Approximately two weeks ago personal documents and a civilian suit ~~xxxxxxxx~~ belonging to a Pole were found in the bushes. As a result rumors had it that 4 Poles had recently attempted an escape, 2 of them were caught by the authorities of the GDR and two disappeared. Members of the VoPo are constantly conducting investigations near the border in an attempt to locate those Germans who are aiding the Poles with clothes and hideouts.

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Frankfurt/O - Near here,

there are 36 farms 31 of which have already joined the LPG. One more will join in Jan. '59 leaving only four which refuse to give up their private enterprise.

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